

CLAIMS:

1. A frame (1) for attachment to an underside of a dock structure to provide buoyancy thereto, characterized by:

a generally planar frame portion (4);

a plurality of receiving members (3), attached to said frame portion (4) and each adapted to receive a hollow container (2) by holding and sealing an open end of said container (2), each of said receiving members (3) comprising a plurality of supports (5) extending in an outward radial direction with respect to each receiving member (4); and means for attaching said frame (1) to the underside of a dock structure, such that said containers (2) depend from said frame (1) and provide a buoyancy effect to said dock structure.

2. A frame (1) according to claim 1 characterized in that each receiving member (3) comprises a female screw portion adapted to receive a male screw portion of one of said container (2).

3. A frame (1) according to claim 1 or 2 characterized in that each receiving member (3) comprises a substantially cylindrical portion extending normally from said frame portion (4) and a plurality of supports (5) extending in an outward radial direction with respect to said cylindrical portion.

4. A frame (1) according to claim 1 characterized in that each receiving member (3) comprises a clamp adapted to receive said containers (2).

5. A frame (1) according to claim 1 characterized in that each receiving member (3) comprises a plug adapted to receive said containers (2).

6. A frame (1) according to any one of claims 1 to 5 characterized in that said attaching means comprises a plurality of apertures in said frame (1) through which fastening means, used to attach said frame to said underside of said dock structure, may be inserted.

7. A frame (1) according to claim 6 characterized in that said fastening means comprises at least one screw.
8. A frame (1) according to any one of claims 1 to 7 characterized in that said containers (2) comprise two-liter plastic drink containers.
9. A frame (1) according to any one of claims 1 to 8 characterized in that said dock structure is a structure selected from the group consisting of a cottage dock, floating bridge, island dock, mooring dock for boats, float for an anchor and a boardwalk.
10. A frame (1) according to any one of claims 1 to 9 characterized in that each receiving member (3) comprises an internal gasket to enable an air- and fluid- tight seal between each receiving member (3) and said container (2).
11. A frame (1) according to any one of claims 1 to 10 characterized in that each receiving member (3) is oriented to enable the containers (2) to extend substantially normal to said frame (1).
12. A frame (1) according to any one of claims 1 to 11 characterized in that said receiving members (3) are positioned on said frame (1) in a grid to allow said containers (2) to be arranged in a grid form.
13. A frame (1) according to any one of claims 1 to 12 characterized in that said receiving members (3) are positioned on said frame (1) such that when the containers (2) are held by said receiving members (3), each container (2) contacts at least another container (2).
14. A frame (1) according to any one of claims 1 to 13 characterized in that said frame portion (4) is substantially in the form of right angle quadrilateral.

15. A frame (1) according to any one of claims 1 to 14 characterized in that each receiving member (3) comprises a lock which may be used to prevent potential tampering.

16. A frame (1) according to any one of claims 1 to 15 comprising a plurality of said receiving members (3) and a plurality of containers (2) attached thereto.

17. A frame (1) according to any one of claims 1 to 16 characterized in that each of said receiving members (3) includes eight of said supports (5).

18. A frame (1) according to any one of claims 1 to 17 further comprising said dock structure attached thereto using said attaching means.

19. A dock system characterized by:
a dock structure; and
a plurality of frames (1) according to any one of claims 1 to 17;
wherein said frames (1) are attached to an underside of said dock structure using said attaching means.